

HB 4928-4930

My name is Katrina Morris and I am the executive director for the Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation (MAPT). MAPT supports maximum fines for motorists that illegally pass stopped school buses and the use of stop-arm cameras to enforce the safety of our students.

In regards to HB 4928 & 4929:

HB 4928 - The proposed bill states that a county treasurer may enter into a contract with and designate a private vendor to process a civil fine described in subsection 3 or 4. A private vendor described in this subsection may be a private vendor contracted by a school district to install, operate, and provide support to a stop-arm camera system on a school bus.

HB 4928 – The proposed bill states in section 682 must be paid to the county treasurer or the county treasurer’s designee and distributed as provided in section 909 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300 MCL 257.909.

With the passing of SB 63 allowing the purchase of school buses into the sinking fund, and the passing of the school aide act which allocated \$125 million to reimburse k-12 transportation, districts now have more options to fund school bus safety equipment. With these two new funding options, we do not believe it is still necessary to have HB 4928 & 4929.

In regards to HB 4930:

HB 4930 – The proposed bill states that a school district may do either of the following: install and operate a stop-arm camera system on a school bus or enter into an agreement with a law enforcement agency to report, directly or through a private vendor, a violation of section 682(1) of the Michigan vehicle code.

On 10/11/21 HB 4204 was enacted stating that a school district may be equipped with a stop-arm camera system and may do either of the following: Install and operate a stop-arm camera system on a school bus or enter into a contract with a private vendor to install and operate a stop-arm camera system on a school bus.

On 10/11/21 HB 4202 was enacted 10/11/21 stating that a school that uses a stop-arm camera system shall provide a video or photograph recorded by the stop-arm camera system for use as evidence in a proceeding for a violation of subsection 1 if requested by an investigating law enforcement agency.

Michigan school bus fleets have been buying school bus stop-arm camera systems for approximately 12 years. MAPT has at least 6 business partners or private vendors, which provide the stop-arm cameras, supporting installation, and maintenance for Michigan’s school bus fleets. School districts have built relationships with the law enforcement agencies in their area to support them with the passing of school bus stop-arm violations. With the passing of HB 4202 school districts have already provided law

enforcement agencies with video or photograph evidence provided by the stop-arm cameras. With the previous law already in place, we do not believe it is still necessary to have HB 4930.

MAPT opposes these bills as written due to these issues already being addressed through prior legislation. The school bus is the safest form of transportation to and from school. MAPT welcomes the opportunity to work with current legislators on educating the community on the importance of stopping for the red lights of a school bus so we can keep our students safe getting on or off of the school bus.